

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A powdered pharmaceutical composition, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:  
formulated separately or together,  
an efficacious amount of (i) loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate; and (ii) at least one  $\beta_2$  adrenoreceptor agonist selected from the group consisting of salbutamol, reproterol, salmeterol, formoterol, and pharmaceutically tolerable salts thereof,  
for ~~simultaneous, sequential, or separate~~ administration by inhalation, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is formulated in a powdered form.

2. (Currently Amended) The powdered pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:

- (i) loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate; and
- (ii) formoterol.

3. (Currently Amended) The powdered pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:

- (i) loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate; and
- (ii) salmeterol.

4. (Currently Amended) The powdered pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:

- (i) loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate; and
- (ii) reproterol.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of asthma bronchiale in a patient, the method comprising:

administering to the patient an efficacious amount of (i) loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate and (ii) at least one  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonist selected from the group consisting of salbutamol, reproterol, salmeterol, formoterol, and pharmaceutically tolerable salts thereof,

~~wherein in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or a vehicle is added if suitable for simultaneous, sequential or separate administration.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of asthma bronchiale, the process comprising:

combining (i) an effective amount of the active compound loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate and (ii) an effective amount of at least one  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor

agonist selected from the group consisting of salbutamol, reproterol, salmeterol, formoterol, and pharmaceutically tolerable salts there of,

~~wherein the loteprednol or loteprednol etabonate and one or more  $\beta_2$  adrenoceptor agonists are mixed individually or together,~~

wherein a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or a vehicle is added if suitable, and

wherein the composition thus obtained is converted into a powdered form suitable for inhalations.